BLACK WIDOW®
& THE MARVEL GIRLS

TOBIN
CAMAGNI
GANDINI

TUESDAY. 1:30 PM.
LATVERIA.

NATASHA ROMANOFF. THE BLACK WIDOW.

I DON'T TRUST THEM.

JANET VAN DYNE. THE WASP.

FARMERS? YOU DON'T TRUST FARMERS?

THESE ONES DON'T *MOVE* RIGHT.

I'M NO SCHOLAR, BUT I DON'T THINK MANY--

PLEASE. YOU MUST TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY.

WE ARE IN ENEMY TERRITORY AND WE HAVE, AMONG *OTHER* THINGS, OURSELVES TO PROTECT.

THAT DOESN'T MEAN THAT--

NOTHING MEANS *ANYTHING* UNLESS YOU *ALLOW* IT TO DO SO.

AND *I* LIKE TO BE IN *CONTROL.*

HEY!

SSSSZZZT

SSSSZZZT

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BGMMM

OH.

Trained to be the ultimate Russian spy, Natasha Romanov is the newest member of Earth's Mightiest Heroes, the Avengers.

BLACK WIDOW

Able to shrink, sprout wings, and fire bioelectric energy, Janet Van Dyne is a veteran heroine with too much fashion sense for her own good.

the WASP

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OKAY! THEY'RE ***ROBOTS!*** YOU ***WIN!***

AS I SAID, THEY DID NOT ***MOVE*** PROPERLY.

AND IF YOU BASE EVERYTHING ON ***THAT,*** THEN ***SOMEDAY*** YOU'LL BEAT UP SOMEBODY WITH A ***BUM LEG*** OR ***HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY!***

I DO NOT BASE ***EVERYTHING*** ON ***ANYTHING.***

IN A FIGHT, ***ANY*** AND ***ALL*** INFORMATION IS VALUABLE!

FOR INSTANCE, THE FACT THAT YOU CANNOT CURRENTLY BECOME THE WASP MAKES YOU NEARLY ***WORTHLESS*** IN BATTLE!

HUH?

SKRRRITCHH

OH. OKAY. FOR A *SECOND* THERE I--

THESE COWS ARE *NORMAL.* I WONDER IF THEY CAN SENSE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN *HUMAN* FARMHANDS AND THESE *SECURITY* ROBOTS?

SECURITY ROBOTS?

WE ARE IN THE COUNTRY WITH THE HIGHEST SECURITY OF ANY NATION. *DOCTOR DOOM* MANUFACTURES THE WORLD'S *MOST ADVANCED ROBOTS,* SHORT ONLY OF THOSE CONSTRUCTED BY *REED RICHARDS.*

YOU SHOULD BE SUSPECT OF *ANYTHING* THAT MOVES, AND *MOST* THINGS THAT DO NOT. JUST LIKE YOU SUSPECT *ME* OF... WHAT *IS* IT THAT YOU SUSPECT ME OF? *BETRAYAL?*

WHO SAYS THAT I SUSPECT YOU OF--

YOU BELIEVED I WAS GOING TO *STAB* YOU WITH THE PITCHFORK.

ONLY BECAUSE YOU--

IN THE *SAME* CIRCUMSTANCES, YOU WOULD *NOT* HAVE SUSPECTED *IRON MAN* OR THE *BLACK PANTHER.*

THE *ONLY* THING I SUSPECT YOU OF IS *NEVER* LETTING ME *FINISH A SENTENCE!*

YOU'RE *RIGHT.* WE SHOULD *NOT* BE ARGUING.

THAT'S NOT REALLY WHAT I WAS--

BUT IT *IS* WHAT YOU *SHOULD* HAVE SAID.

WE HAVE A *VALUABLE* TREASURE. A FALLEN *DOOMBOT,* CONTAINING DOCTOR DOOM'S *MOST SOPHISTICATED* ROBOTICS. GETTING THIS DATA OUT OF LATVERIA IS AN *IMPERATIVE.*

LET US CONCENTRATE ON *THAT.*

FIVE HOURS EARLIER.

IS IT AN *IMPERATIVE* THAT WE WALK THE STREETS OF DOOMSTADT IN COSTUME?

NORMALLY, I WOULDN'T THINK OF IT, BUT *THIS* TIME WE'RE HERE AT DOCTOR DOOM'S *INVITATION,* AND IT'S PROBABLY BEST TO STAY VISIBLE.

THOR

BLACK PANTHER

SCARLET WITCH

THE VISION

IRON MAN

THIS *COULD* BE PLAYING INTO DOOM'S HANDS.

POSSIBLY, BUT I BELIEVE IT'S BETTER TO BE OUT IN THE OPEN.

IF THIS MISSION IS TO *SUCCEED* IT HAS TO BE PLAYED *DIPLOMATICALLY,* AND SKULKING AROUND LIKE SPIES, *HIDING* FROM LATVERIA'S PEOPLE, IS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE.

WHY DO YOU THINK DOOM IS LETTING *PROFESSOR SWINSON* LEAVE THE COUNTRY, ANYWAY?

INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE. AT *THIS* POINT, THERE'S MORE TO BE GAINED BY LOOKING *BENEVOLENT* THAN CONTINUING TO KEEP SWINSON UNDER HOUSE ARREST.

AND SWINSON'S BEST YEARS IN *ROBOTICS* MAY BE PAST, MAKING HIM *DISPOSABLE* IN DOOM'S MIND.

STILL, IF WE CAN LEARN SOME OF THE BASICS THAT SWINSON PUT INTO HIS EARLIER DESIGNS, WE *MIGHT* BE ABLE TO EXTRAPOLATE *CURRENT* DATA, UNDERSTAND WHAT WE'RE UP AGAINST WHENEVER DOOM GOES OFF ON HIS CRAZY...

BEST TO KEEP *QUIET* ABOUT *THAT.* THESE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN *BOTTLE-FED* TO BELIEVE CERTAIN THINGS.

YES. *COMPLETELY* UNLIKE *AMERICA.*

WAS THAT SOME SORT OF *CRACK?*

SOME SORT. YES.

NATASHA?

WASP. GET HER BACK.

CAN DO.

WIDOW. YOU KNOW ***BETTER*** THAN THIS. COME BACK WITH THE OTHERS BEFORE--

OF ***COURSE*** I KNOW BETTER THAN THIS.

DOOM INVITING THE ***AVENGERS*** TO COME TO LATVERIA IN ORDER TO ESCORT A DEFECTING LATVERIAN SCIENTIST TO AMERICA? ***RIDICULOUS.***

YOU HAVEN'T BEEN AN AVENGER LONG ENOUGH TO--

TO UNDERSTAND ***PEOPLE?*** I AM ***HARDLY*** NEW TO PEOPLE.

THE SIMPLE FACT IS THAT PROFESSOR SWINSON HAS BEEN TRYING TO ESCAPE LATVERIA FOR NEARLY A DECADE.

HE WAS UNDER ***HOUSE ARREST*** FOR YEARS. ***NO*** OUTSIDE CONTACT BARRING HUMANITARIAN RIGHTS GROUPS, AND ***NOW*** VICTOR VON DOOM SIMPLY ***RELEASES*** HIM?

AND ***ONLY*** ON THE CONDITION THAT THE ***AVENGERS*** ESCORT HIM FROM THE COUNTRY?

IRON MAN IS NERVOUS TOO. BUT IF WE CAN GIVE DOOM A ***TINY*** PROPAGANDA VICTORY IN RETURN FOR ***FREEING A PRISONER,*** SO ***BE*** IT!

YOU SPEAK AS IF PROPAGANDA IS ***NOTHING,*** WHILE IN REALITY IT MAY WELL CAUSE ***MORE*** PROBLEMS, ***FURTHER*** PRISONERS.

VISION...CAN YOU HEAR WHAT THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT?

UNFORTUNATELY, I CANNOT. THE CROWD NOISES ARE INTERFERING WITH MY SENSORS.

I HOPE THEY GET BACK HERE SOON. THE ATMOSPHERE IS *TENSE.*

SPEAKING OF *TENSE*, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT OUR LATEST AVENGER?

THE *WIDOW?* SHE MAKES ME NERVOUS.

ME TOO! I DON'T THINK THERE *IS* SUCH A BEAST AS AN *EX*-SPY. AND SHE NEVER *LAUGHS.*

WE HAVE TO TAKE HER FOR WHAT SHE IS.

WHICH WOULD BE A *LOT* EASIER IF WE *KNEW* WHAT SHE WAS.

I'M A FIRM BELIEVER THAT I NEVER KNOW WHAT *ANYTHING* IS.

ALL A MAN CAN REALLY DO IS KEEP HIS *CHIN UP* AND A *THUNDER GOD* BY HIS SIDE, AND *HOPE* FOR THE BEST.

WELL, *START HOPING,* BECAUSE HERE COMES *DOCTOR DOOM.*

HOW SHOULD WE ADDRESS HIM? WE CAN'T JUST CALL HIM *DOOM*.

FAIR ENOUGH.

WE CALL HIM *VICTOR* TO SHOW WE'RE *EQUALS*, AND WE HAVE *THOR* DO THE TALKING, SO THAT *NOBODY* CAN ACCUSE US OF *DIPLOMATIC ARROGANCE*.

HAIL, VICTOR VON DOOM! AS *SPOKESMAN* FOR THE *AVENGERS*--

ARREST THEM.

WHAT?

YOU HAVE BROUGHT AN *ANDROID* ONTO OUR *SACRED SOIL SPECIFICALLY* AS AN ACT OF *INTERNATIONAL ESPIONAGE*. IT IS AN *OUTRAGE*.

LEAVE THE ROBOT *BEHIND* SO THAT MY SCIENTISTS MAY *STUDY* HIM IN ORDER TO DISCOVER WHAT STATE SECRETS HE HAS *ALREADY STOLEN*, OR YOU WILL *ALL* BE HELD UNTIL SUCH A TIME AS OUR COURTS DECIDE HOW TO *DEAL* WITH THIS *TRANS-GRESSION*.

SO.

THAT'S HIS GAME.

NOT BAD. PLAY THE *OUTDATED SCIENTIST* EITHER TO *DECIPHER* THE *VISION'S ADVANCED DESIGNS*, OR GAIN AN *INCREDIBLE* PROPAGANDA VICTORY.

THOR. WITCH. ANYTHING YOU CAN DO HERE?

NOTHING SO QUICKLY THAT WE WOULDN'T BE *SHOT DOWN* BEFORE I MAKE MY MOVE.

AGREED. I FEAR I CANNOT PROTECT YOU ALL IN TIME.

OKAY. THEN.

VISION...I NEED YOU TO *SHUT DOWN* FOR A WHILE.

IRON MAN! YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!

I'D *BETTER* BE SERIOUS, OR IT'S *CHECKMATE.*

VISION. *SHUT DOWN.* FOR FIVE SECONDS. DO IT *NOW.*

CONFIRMED.

FWWWWWWFP

WHAT... WAS... THAT?

ELECTROMAGNETIC PULSE. A *BIG* ONE. SHOULD SHUT EVEN *DOOM* DOWN FOR A *FEW* SECONDS.

AND THOSE *RIFLES* SCANNED AS HAVING *COMPUTERIZED* TECH, *LET'S GO!*

THOR! YOU'RE REAR GUARD!

WITH PLEASURE!

PROFESSOR SWINSON?

Y-YES?

ARE YOU PART OF THIS PLOT, OR DO YOU TRULY WISH TO LEAVE LATVERIA?

TAKE ME WITH YOU!

WITCH! ANY CHANCE OF A DISTRACTION?

YOU HAVE BUT TO SPEAK--

--AND THE WALLS WILL CRUMBLE.

WASP! WIDOW! THIS WAS ALL A TRAP! WE NEED TO EVACUATE!

GOT IT! WE'LL CLEAR A PATH TO THE QUINJET!

CLOSE!

WHOA!

YIKES!

WIDOW! WE NEED YOU ONBOARD!

WHERE'S THE *WIDOW?*

RIGHT BEHIND ME!

LET'S HOPE SHE *HURRIES!* DOOM'S LOADING A *COUNTERPUNCH!*

I HAVE BECOME *ENGAGED* IN A *DISAGREEMENT.* GO *WITHOUT* ME. I AM CAPABLE OF *LEAVING THE COUNTRY* ON MY OWN.

WAIT! WE'RE LEAVING WITHOUT BLACK WIDOW?

HAVE TO! BUT ONLY FOR THE MOMENT! WE'RE SITTING DUCKS ON THE GROUND, AND IF WE DON'T GET AIRBORNE--

AHHH!

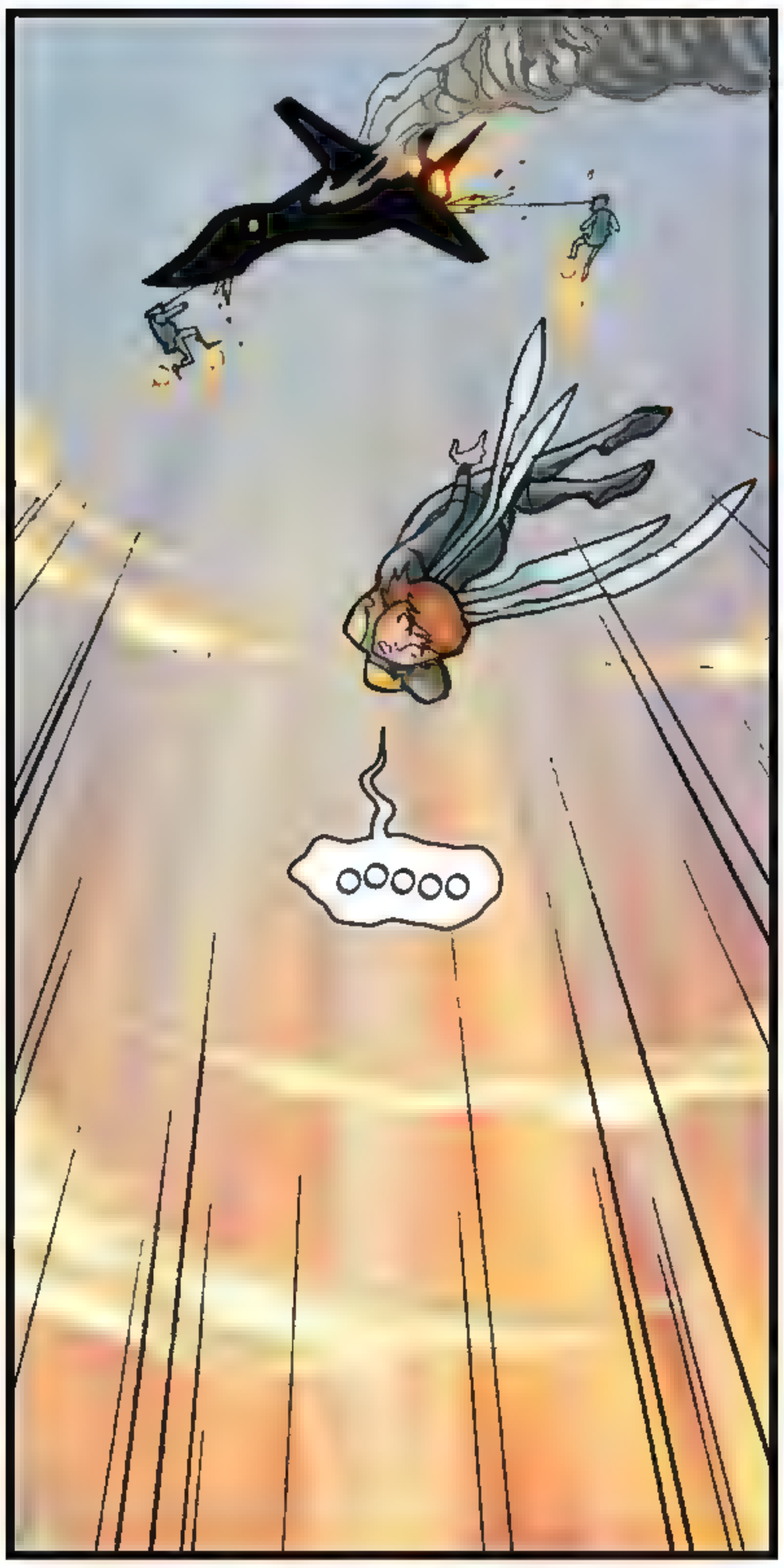
KRSHHRR

THOR! LET'S GET OUTSIDE! WE NEED TO SHAKE THOSE DOOMBOTS OFF THE SHIP!

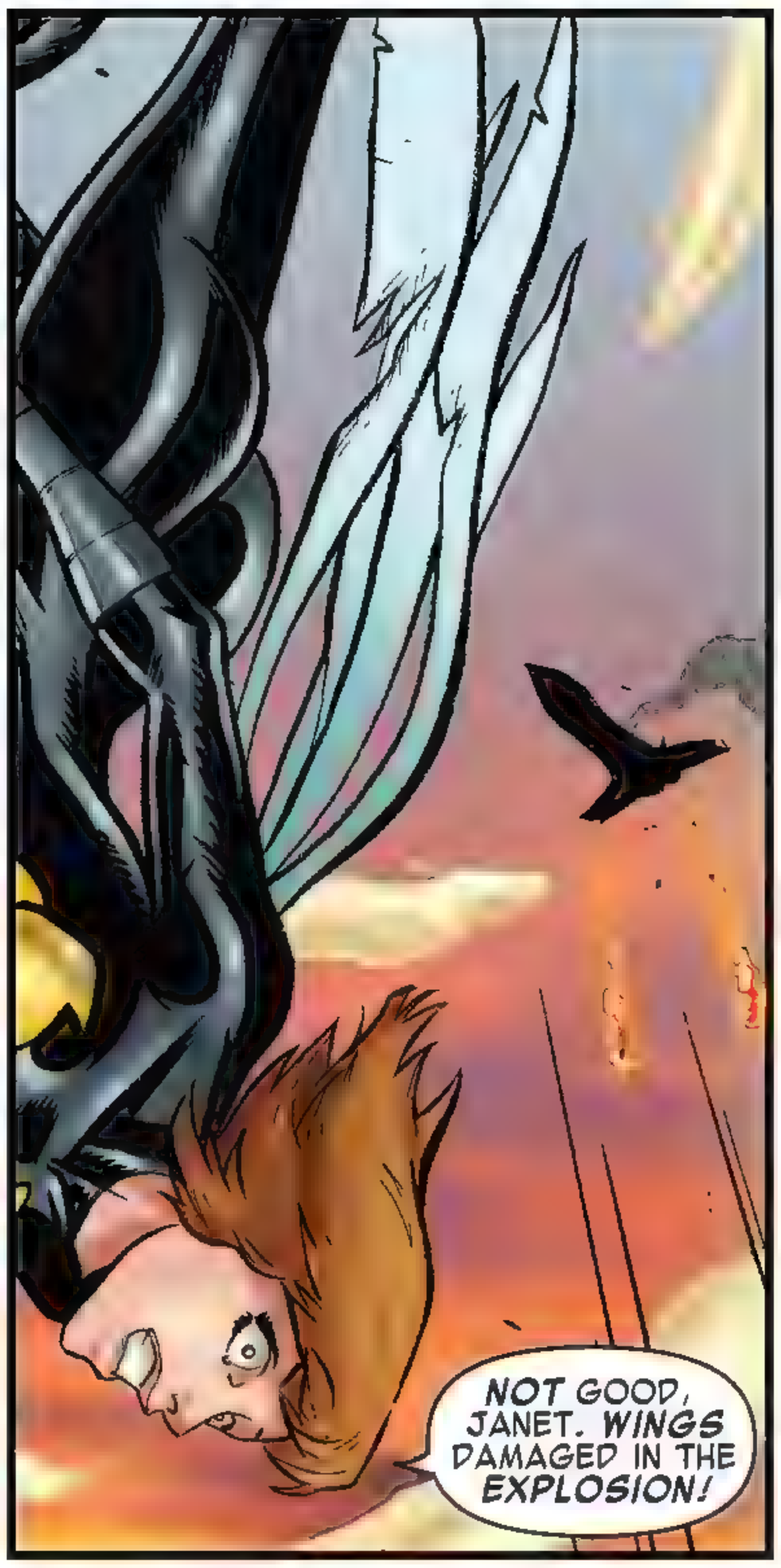
I'LL DO WHAT I CAN TO--

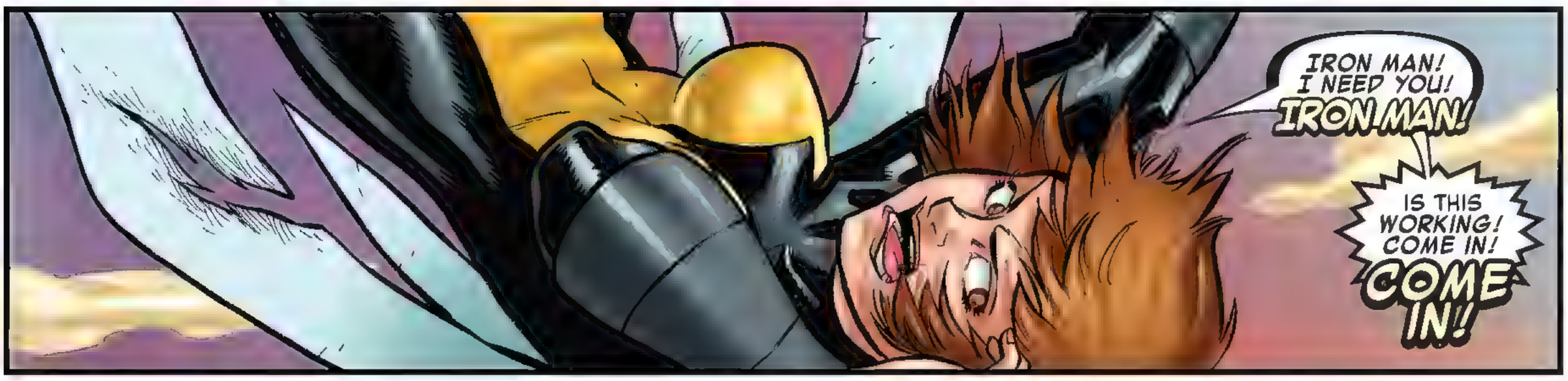
BOOM

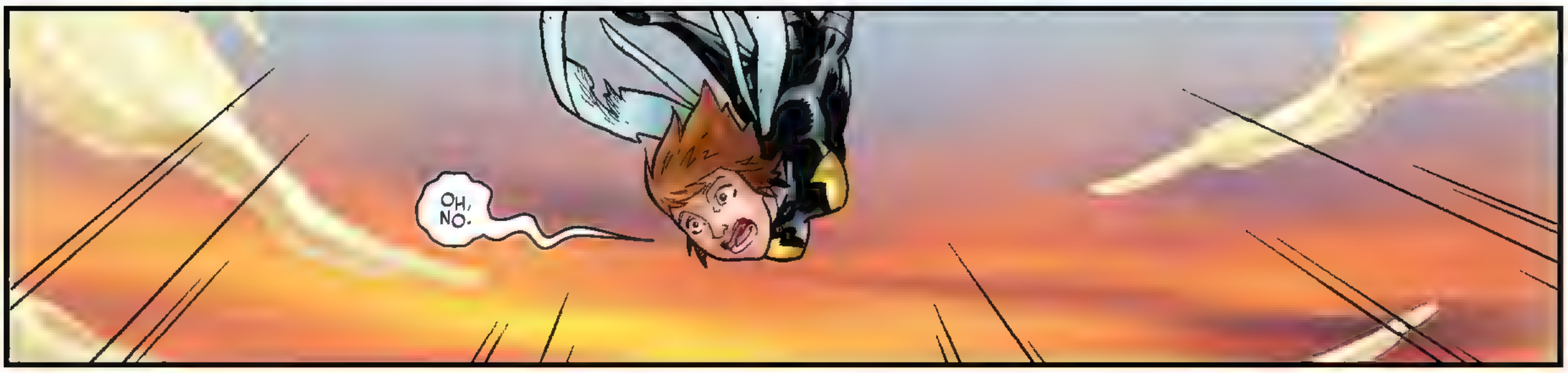
UNHHH!


OOOOO

UNNN... WHAT?
OH NO. NO.


NOT GOOD, JANET. WINGS DAMAGED IN THE EXPLOSION!


IRON MAN! I NEED YOU! IRON MAN!
IS THIS WORKING! COME IN! COME IN!


OH, NO.

SSSSWHAPPF

HUH?

HOW DID--?

I WITNESSED THE QUINJET BATTLE, AND MONITORED YOUR *SUDDEN CHANGE* FROM THE *OTHER* AVENGERS' GPS COORDINATES.

YOU... TRACKED MY LOCATION?

OF COURSE. *ALL* INFORMATION IS *MEANINGFUL*. COINCIDING WITH THE EXPLOSION, IT SUGGESTED YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS, OR INJURED.

WHEN YOU NEARED THE GROUND, I WAS ABLE TO SEE YOU, CATCH YOU.

I *WASN'T* UNCONSCIOUS. WELL, NOT FOR LONG. MY WINGS WERE *INJURED*, SO I--UMM.

THANK YOU.

HURRY. YOU WERE NOT THE *ONLY* OBJECT THAT FELL.

A DOOMBOT?

CORRECT. TREASURE FROM THE SKY.

THINK OF WHAT SECRETS ARE INVOLVED IN ITS CONSTRUCTION! WE *MUST* TRY TO GET IT OUT OF THE COUNTRY!

TUESDAY. 2:00 P.M.

YOU THINK WE SHOULD GO INTO A PUB?

THE ROBOT IS ***WELL*** HIDDEN, THE ***CLOTHES*** WE TOOK FROM THE FARMER ROBOTS WILL ***DISGUISE*** US, AND WE--

WE DON'T HAVE ***TIME*** FOR THIS!

THERE IS ***ALWAYS*** TIME TO BE CAREFUL. PUBS IN THESE SMALL TOWNS ARE NOT UNLIKE ***DATABASES.*** IN ORDER TO SURVIVE, WE ***MUST*** KNOW THE PLAYING FIELD AND ALL THE PIECES.

FOR INSTANCE, IF WE CAN LEARN HOW CLOSE WE ARE TO THE BORDER OF ***SYMKARIA***--

IT'S TOO ***DANGEROUS.*** I'M ***NOT*** GOING IN.

FINE. TRY TO LOOK ***INCONSPICUOUS*** HERE ON THE STREET.

I WOULD SUGGEST YOU PRETEND TO BE A ***PETULANT CHILD.***

IT WILL BE THE ***EASIEST*** ROLE FOR YOU TO PORTRAY.

I DON'T SPEAK THE *LANGUAGE.*

I DO. YOU JUST SIT HERE AND BE *DECORATIVE.* MEN ARE EVEN *MORE* OPEN TO PRETTY WOMEN *WITH* PRETTY FRIENDS.

DID YOU FIND OUT ANYTHING?

OF COURSE. I KNOW THE COMPLETE *AFFAIRS* OF EACH MAN I MET, THE SURROUNDING *GEOGRAPHY* OF THIS TOWN, AND THE *IDENTITIES* OF *DOOM'S INFORMANTS.*

WE ALSO NOW HAVE SUFFICIENT *MONIES* FOR ANY REASONABLE PURCHASES, AND I HAVE SEVERAL *KEYS* IN CASE WE... NEED A PLACE TO STAY.

I'LL SLEEP IN AN OPEN *FIELD*, IF IT COMES TO *THAT*.

MUCH WISER. BUT *COLD*. ALSO, UNNECESSARY.

GERTER, THE MAN WHO FANCIES HIMSELF AS THE *RED BARON*, TOLD ME OF THIS *AIRFIELD*.

OKAY. IT'S A *BIPLANE*. DO YOU KNOW HOW TO *FLY* A BIPLANE?

WAIT... *DON'T* ANSWER. OF *COURSE* YOU DO. YOU SPEAK *EVERY* LANGUAGE. YOU FLY *EVERY* PLANE.

IT IS ALL JUST *INFORMATION*. EASY TO *CONTROL*.

HOLD *TIGHTLY*, IF YOU PLEASE. WE ARE GOING TO HAVE *TROUBLE*.

WE'RE UNDER FIRE!

YES. I WAS *AWARE* OF THE *INFORMANTS* IN THE PUB, BUT IT WAS A CHANCE WE NEEDED TO TAKE.

I ONLY WISH THAT I'D HAD TIME TO *DISABLE* THE *OTHER* PLANES.

BRATT BRATT BRATT

YEAH. ME TOO.

THE WEIGHT OF THE DOOMBOT IS SLOWING US DOWN. IF THOSE MEN ARE COMPETENT PILOTS--

FFFTTT FFFTTT FFFTTT FFFTTT FFFTTT FFFTTT

AHHH! FLY THIS THING!

SSSSHHT

SSSHHT

YOU GOT HIM!

YES, BUT THE OTHER PILOT IS *MUCH* MORE SURE OF HIMSELF. PUT ON YOUR *PARACHUTE.*

I DON'T *SEE* ANY *PARACHUTE!*

TELL ME THAT YOU HAVE CHUTES UP THERE! YOU HAVE CHUTES UP THERE, RIGHT?

NO. AND I'M AFRAID I'M ALSO OUT OF BULLETS. THE PLANE WAS NOT FULLY OUTFITTED.

AHH! HE'S BEHIND US! HE'S FIRING!

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?! WHAT ARE WE--

OH GEEZ!!!

AHHHHHH!

SSSSHK SSSSHK SSSSHK

AARRGHH!

SHOOT

AHHHHH!

UNNH! NO!

TODAY IS NOT MY DAY!

COME ON, WINGS! FLY! FLY!

JANET!

MY WINGS! I STILL CAN'T FLY! WE'LL HAVE TO USE YOUR CHUTE TO--

WAIT! YOU DON'T HAVE A PARACHUTE!

WHY DID YOU--

I DO ADMIT IT WAS SOMEWHAT *IMPETUOUS* OF ME. BUT...I *COULDN'T* JUST LET *YOU*--

...HA.

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

WHY ARE YOU *LAUGHING*? WHAT'S SO *FUNNY*? WE'RE GOING TO DIE!

YES. PROBABLY! BUT...I HAVE *NO CONTROL! NONE!*

IT'S SO *FUNNY!*

I FEEL SO *WEIGHTLESS.*

GOT YOU!

IRON MAN!

AS SOON AS WE MANAGED TO SHAKE FREE OF THE REMAINING DOOMBOTS, WE CAME BACK FOR YOU TWO.

JANET...YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN FALLING THIS WHOLE TIME, RIGHT?

LOOONG STORY.

THOR RETRIEVED THE DOOMBOT FROM YOUR PLANE'S WRECKAGE. *FANTASTIC* IDEA TO NAB ONE. WE'LL LEARN A *LOT* OF DOOM'S SECRETS.

IT WAS THE *WIDOW'S* IDEA.

WELL, IT WAS *SMART.*

SO, TELL ME, HOW *WAS* IT TO WORK WITH THE FAMOUS *BLACK WIDOW?* DID YOU GET TO *KNOW* HER AT ALL?

A LITTLE BIT, YES. SHE'S NOT AS *HUMORLESS* AS I FIRST THOUGHT, SO *THAT'S* NICE. ALL IN ALL, THOUGH, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO ADMIT THAT SHE'S NOT A VERY *LIKEABLE* PERSON.

BUT I DO *TRUST* HER.

COMPLETELY.

NEXT ISSUE

MS. MARVEL

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